

**Mission Canyon Association
Minutes of Board Meeting
September 5, 2006
7:30 p.m.**

Present: Jenny Cushnie, Tom Jacobs, Bill McCullough, Ray Smith, Tim Steele, Dorothy Veal, Jean Yamamura.

Absent: Nancy Bertelson, Ralph Daniel, Kathy Koury, Ginger Sledge. Remo Ruccione will no longer be serving on the Board

Guests: Nancy Christel, Nancy Johnson of the Botanic Garden, Ann Goff, Milt Roselinksy, David Neels of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, guest of Dorothy Veal (name unknown).

Time being of the essence, the meeting began at 7:40, although not formally called to order by the President. Each person present introduced herself or himself and stated their interest or position on the Board.

Nancy Johnson announced that because of recent vandalism and theft, the Botanic Garden has hired a half-time security officer and installed a lock on the gate at the Garden during the hours the Garden is closed. Operating hours are 9:00 – 6:00 and 9:00 –5:00 November – February.

Ray Smith was reimbursed \$270.57 for the Mutt Mitts and Tunnel Road Sign “Please Keep Tunnel Road Clean.”

David Neels, of the Vegetation Management Program of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department gave a presentation detailing the coordination of efforts for fire prevention in the Canyon. He brought illustrations, charts and supplementary material handouts that will be duplicated for distribution to the entire Board.

Officer Neels cited the several levels of preparedness both National and Military. He stated that we have been at Level 5 since July 28, 2006. His department, Vegetation Management, is essentially concerned with “Prefire Engineering.” As we all know, Mission Canyon is an area of great risk; the roads are narrow, there is a high population density and plenty of fuel about the canyon in the East Camino Cielo area. Aside from fighting fires, getting the brush cut is top priority for the fire department.

Controlled burns are feasible in the future, and two will be conducted in the North County in late September or October at Woodstock Ranch and Santa Inez Valley. Board members were invited to observe these burns.

Questions and discussion followed about the weed abatement program, revising the Mission Canyon Plan, regulations change, and the Fire Safety Council.

Jenny Cushnie is managing the current grant which is on target. The documents for the second grant are down to the short list. She feels everything is proceeding on schedule. The grant work is moving ahead and will finish work in the canyon as planned.

Note was made of the Botanic Garden eucalyptus tree removal and the huge safety zone that has created. Nancy Johnson stated that the total cost was approximately \$2000 per tree.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 by Tim Steele, who had been unavoidably delayed.

Ray Smith passed out copies of Minutes from June, July and August. In the interest of time, members will read these at home and send any additions or corrections to Bill, who will edit the minutes before posting them on the website.

As Treasurer, Bill McCullough reported that the director's insurance has been paid, but we are waiting an invoice on the Liability policy.

New Board Members Ann Goff and Milton Roselinsky were elected. Ann was elected as Board Secretary. Milt would like to work on the Mission Canyon Plan, fire liaison and Land Use Committee. Visitor Nancy Christel was introduced.

Tim Sledge stated that the one-page mailing to the neighborhood will go out next week, encouraging residents to pick up an application to become a member of MC PAC.

Tom has been in touch with Salud Carbajal's office. The number to phone for zoning enforcement calls is 896-3945. The enforcement of the new plan will be complaint driven.

Jean Yamamura agreed to facilitate and coordinate the Newsletter publication. She will meet with Laurie Gitteau and AdMark Graphics.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be October 2, 2006.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Goff
Board Secretary